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By: _____

Peter K. Trzyna (Reg. No. 32,601)

Date: January 10, 2003

PATENT

Paper No.

File No. Proflowers-P1-98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : SCHUTZ, Jared P.
Serial No. : 09/149,650
Filed : 8 September 1998
For : COMPUTERIZED CONTROL SYSTEM LOCATED
AT AN ORDER CENTER FOR SHIPPING
PRODUCT FROM A REMOTELY LOCATED
DISTRIBUTION CENTER
Group Art Unit : 2164
Examiner : Richard Fults

The Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDED VERSION OF THE CLAIMS

S I R:

Set forth below is the amended version of the claims.

9. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of printing is carried out with the sheet including a greeting card having preprinted artwork and demarcations for detaching the greeting card; and wherein the step of shipping includes separating the packaging list and the greeting card [by tearing the sheet] at the demarcations.

16. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said step of shipping includes shipping the product in packaging displaying a network [gateway] address to facilitate an electronic communication from an ordering system, including a computer, to the order center apparatus.

39. (Thrice Amended) A method for using an order center apparatus to ship a product, the method including the steps of:

providing the order center apparatus [at an order center, the order center apparatus] including a computer having a processor controlled by a computer program in producing output signals representing a packing list for an order of the product;

producing waybill shipping information signals at a shipping system, including a computer;

[linking] connecting the order center apparatus to a communications system, including the Internet, for transmitting the electrical signals representing the packing list;

[linking] connecting the shipping system to a communications system, including the Internet, for transmitting the electrical signals representing the [packing list] waybill shipping information signals;

linking the signals representing the order with the signals representing the waybill shipping information;

locating a printer device linked to the communications system at a distribution center separate from the ordering center and separate from the shipping system;

receiving the signals representing the packing list at the printer device;

receiving the signals representing the waybill shipping information signals at the printer device;

printing a waybill at the printer from the waybill shipping information signals;
printing a packing list from the signals representing the packing list; and
shipping the product specified by the packing list, according to the waybill, from
the distribution center.

43. (Twice Amended) A method for using an order center apparatus to enable [a
user of an ordering system to] shipping a gift and a user-composed greeting message to a
recipient, the method including the steps of:

specifying the gift[,] and [communicating] the user-composed greeting message[,
for receipt by the recipient by connecting the] with an ordering system, including a computer,
connected to a web site; and

connecting the web site to the order center apparatus [located at an order
center, the apparatus] including a processor controlled by a computer program[;] to carry out
steps of:

linking electronic signals representing the gift with the user-composed greeting
message in communicating over the Internet for receipt by the recipient;

controlling the shipping of the gift to the recipient by obtaining shipping waybill
data from a shipping apparatus; and

linking signals representing the order with the signals representing the waybill
shipping data

[using the processor to communicate the user-composed greeting message to
the recipient].

47. (Twice Amended) A method for using an order center apparatus to

implement a delivery customized and fulfilled just for a recipient, the method including the steps of:

producing output electrical signals representing an order including a list of necessary intermediates of a flower arrangement for a delivery customized and fulfilled just for a recipient by causing an order center apparatus located at an order center to change input digital electrical signals received from an Internet web page into the output digital electrical signals, the order center apparatus including a computer having a processor, the processor controlled by a computer program;

assigning waybill tracking information signals to the order;

linking, by digital communication, the signals representing the list with the [shipping] waybill tracking information signals;

communicating the signals representing the list to a printer device at a distribution center located remotely from the order center; and

making the delivery customized and fulfilled just for the recipient, as specified by the list, in accordance with the waybill tracking information signals, from the distribution center.

48. (Twice Amended) The method of claim [43] 122, further including the step of communicating an email confirmation of the order to an electronic address of the ordering system computer.

120. (Twice Amended) A method for making a product for shipping by using an order center apparatus, the method including the steps of:

receiving an order from a web site at the order center apparatus [located at an order center, the order center apparatus] including a computer having a processor;

controlling the processor with a computer program to the produce signals representing a packing list for the order;

receiving a waybill tracking number receiving from a shipping system including a computer;

associating signals representing the waybill tracking number with said signals representing the order;

locating a printer device at a distribution center separate from the order center and separate from the shipping system;

printing the packing list at the printer device from the signals representing the packing list;

making the product; and

locating the product identified by the packing list in packaging for courier shipment from the distribution center according to a waybill corresponding to the waybill tracking number.

122. (Twice Amended) A [method] process for making a product for shipping [by using an order center apparatus], the [method] process including the steps of:

enabling a user of an ordering system to ship the product as a gift and communicate a message to a recipient by connecting the ordering system, including a computer, to a web site;

making the product for the shipping; and

connecting the web site to the order center apparatus [located at an order center, the apparatus] including a processor controlled by a computer program[:]
to carry out steps of:

[making the product;]

linking electronic signals representing the gift with the message in

communicating over the Internet for receipt by the recipient;

controlling the shipping [the product as] of the gift to the recipient by obtaining

shipping waybill data from a shipping apparatus; and

linking signals representing the order with the signals representing the waybill

shipping data

[using the processor to communicate the user-composed greeting message to the recipient].

123. (Twice Amended) A method for making a product for shipping by using an order center apparatus to implement a delivery customized and fulfilled just for a recipient, the method including the steps of:

producing output electrical signals representing a list of necessary intermediates of a flower arrangement as the product for a delivery customized and fulfilled just for a recipient by causing an order center apparatus located at an order center to change input digital electrical signals received from an Internet web page into the output digital electrical signals, the order center apparatus including a computer having a processor, the processor controlled by a computer program;

assigning waybill tracking information signals to the order;

linking, by digital communication, the signals representing the list with the [shipping] waybill tracking information signals;

communicating the signals representing the list to a printer device at a distribution center located remotely from the order center;

making the product; and


making the delivery customized and fulfilled just for the recipient, as specified by the list, in accordance with the waybill tracking information signals, from the distribution center.

Applicant claims small entity status. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the above-identified patent application or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 50-0235.

If the prosecution of this case can be in any way advanced by a telephone discussion, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (312) 240-0824.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 10, 2003


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